Privatization of health services

3284. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal for increasing privatization of health services in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government have worked of safeguarding the interests of the poor people before granting permission?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) No, Sir. Privatization of health services in the country has not been envisioned under the National Rural Health Mission. The Government seeks to focus on strengthening the public health system for providing better health service delivery, particularly to the poor of the country. Partnerships with the non-governmental providers is also part of the strategy to reach quality health services in rural areas.

Anaemia in pregnant women

3285. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA:
SHRIMATI SYEDA ANWARA TAIMUR:
DR. ABHISHEK MANU SINGHVI:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that anaemia in pregnant women causes 20 per cent of the infant mortality and that nearly nine out of 10 pregnant women between 15 and 49 years are malnourished and anaemic!

(b) if so, whether Government propose to launch a targeted programme, with active co-operation of the State Governments to rectify this position and what is the time-frame set for the same in the Eleventh Five Year Plan and at what extent the problem would be solved;

(c) what is the financial outlay per annum for going ahead with such a scheme;